GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2538
ANSWERED ON:18.08.2006
DRINKING WATER SUPPLY IN TSUNAMI AFFECTED STATES .
Athawale Shri Ramdas

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a)Whether the Union Government has taken any steps to improve the drinking water supply in the States affected by Tsunami;

(b) If so, the details thereof; and

(c) The amount of funds allocated for the said purpose as on date?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL)

(a) to (c) Rural Drinking Water is a State subject. The central Government, however, supplements the efforts of the States in providing drinking water facilities in the rural areas by rendering financial assistance and technical support through a Centrally Sponsored Scheme namely Accelerated Rural water Supply Programme (ARWSP). The State Governments are competent to plan, sanction, implement and execute rural water supply projects from the funds provided under ARWSP. Every year upto 5% of ARWSP funds are kept aside for rendering financial assistance to States/UTs for restoration of water supply affected due to Natural Calamity (including Tsunami). After the outbreak of Tsunami in December 2004, funds released to Tsunami affected States/UTs during 2004-05 from calamity relief quota of ARWSP are as under: -

Andhra Pradesh Rs. 3.00 Crores, Kerala > Rs. 1.75 Crores
Tamil Nadu Rs. 8.50 Crores, A& N Islands Rs.15.37Crores
Pondicherry Rs. 1.00 Crores.

In addition Central Ground Water Board procured machinery and equipment for restoration of rural drinking water supply schemes in A&N Islands. An expenditure of Rs. 3.27 crores was incurred on this account from the budget head of ARWSP against authorization.